

Application Serial No. 10/666,674
Reply to Office Action of October 22, 2004

PATENT
Docket: CU-3362

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-3 are pending in the present application before this amendment.

(Claims 4-15 have been withdrawn in response to a restriction requirement.) By the present amendment, Claims 1-2 have been amended. Claim 15 has been added. No new matter has been added.

In response to the rejection of Claim 2 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶2, Claim 2 has been amended to recite: --while controlling to a constant temperature by cooling with a cooling mechanism placed on the nozzle--. It is respectfully submitted that this amendment is considered to overcome the rejection, and an indication thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 3 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over a PCT Reference WO 98/24271 (Miyashita where U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0054186 was used as a translation by the Examiner) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0127344 (Pham). Claim 2 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Miyashita in view of Pham, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,017,941 (Drake). The "et al." suffix, which may appear after a reference name, is omitted in this paper.

The presently claimed invention is directed to a method for manufacturing an organic EL display by discharging an ink on a substrate by an ink jet method. The discharged ink is heated immediately, since the ink is discharged on the substrate being heated, thereby flattening the obtained layer.

In manufacturing a high precision functional layer for organic EL display or the

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like by discharging an ink on a substrate by the ink jet method, the heating of the substrate is not ordinarily carried out for the following problematic reasons.

When discharging the ink, the nozzle of the ink jet needs to be located close to the substrate in order to form a high precision functional layer. Since the substrate and the nozzle are so close to each other, when the substrate is heated, the nozzle will be heated by the radiant heat or the like from the substrate. When the nozzle is heated, various problems will occur, for example, as described in the first column of the cited Drake reference. These and other problems are solved by the presently claimed invention.

The presently claimed invention is characterized in that, by placing the cooling mechanism on the nozzle, the obtained layer is flattened by discharging the ink onto the heated substrate, without the above-mentioned problems disclosed in the prior art.

Pham appears to disclose heating the substrate, but Pham fails to teach or suggest the ink jet method.

The presently claimed invention is characterized in that the ink is discharged while the substrate is being heated, which is not (and should not be considered as) understood by those skilled in the art. The presently claimed invention is not taught or suggested whether Miyashita or US 2003/0054186 (which merely describes a method for manufacturing organic EL display by the ink jet method) and Pham (which merely describes heating of the substrate in a spraying method or something similar but not the ink jet method) are considered individually or together.

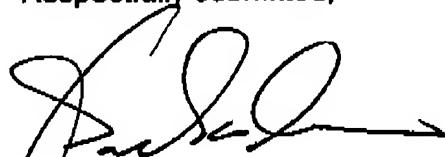
For the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-3 and 15, now pending in this application, are in condition for allowance over the cited

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references. This amendment is considered to be responsive to all points raised in the Office Action. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and earnestly solicits an indication of allowable subject matter. Should the Examiner have any remaining questions or concerns, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone to expeditiously resolve such concerns.

Respectfully submitted,



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